

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 25, 2003

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 18, 2003

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 16, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 2, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 5, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1330

Introduced by Assembly Member Simitian

February 21, 2003

An act to amend Section 8702 of, and to add and repeal Article 6 (commencing with Section 8780) of Chapter 4 of Part 6 of, the Education Code, relating to instructional programs.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1330, as amended, Simitian. Outdoor Environmental Education Program.

Existing law contains legislative findings and declarations regarding the need for an educational program that is designed to build attitudes of stewardship toward the maintenance of the quality of our environment and to enable all citizens to use resources wisely.

This bill would establish the Outdoor Environmental Education Program, the purpose of which is to foster stewardship of the environment and an appreciation of the importance of the wise use of natural resources. The bill would require the State Department of Education to administer the program and, according to a priority system

to be developed by the department, select applicants for participation in the program, pursuant to prescribed criteria. The bill would require the department to contract with an independent evaluator to conduct an evaluation of the program and submit a report to the Legislature no later than February 1, 2005. The bill would provide that the program and its evaluation be implemented only ~~to the extent~~ *if the Department of Finance determines* that private funds are made available for purposes of the costs of the program and its evaluation.

This bill would make these provisions inoperative on July 1, 2005, and repeal them on January 1, 2006.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 8702 of the Education Code is amended
2 to read:

3 8702. The Legislature further finds and declares that an
4 educational program is needed that is designed to build necessary
5 attitudes of stewardship toward the maintenance of the quality of
6 our common environment and to enable all citizens to use wisely,
7 and not destructively, the resources at their disposal. These
8 attitudes are best developed at an early age through programs that
9 encourage personal responsibility and participation in the local
10 community.

11 SEC. 2. Article 6 (commencing with Section 8780) is added
12 to Chapter 4 of Part 6 of the Education Code, to read:

13
14 Article 6. Outdoor Environmental Education Program
15

16 8780. There is hereby established the Outdoor Environmental
17 Education Program for the purpose of fostering stewardship of the
18 environment and an appreciation of the importance of the wise use
19 of natural resources, and showcasing the diversity of programs that
20 fulfill that purpose.

21 8781. (a) The State Department of Education shall
22 administer the program and shall select diverse entities to
23 implement the program according to a priority scoring system
24 based on the eligibility requirements enumerated in subdivision
25 (b), upon application.



(b) In order to be eligible, applicants shall do all of the following:

(1) Serve primarily at-risk youth and underserved demographic groups.

(2) Encourage collaboration with other entities in the provision of services.

(3) Serve a minimum adequate number of participants.

(4) Commit a minimum adequate amount of resources to the program.

(5) Promote outdoor educational activities.

(6) Provide a curriculum that fosters stewardship of the environment and an appreciation of the importance of the wise use of natural resources.

(7) Include service-learning and community outreach components for the purpose of building partnerships between participants and local communities.

8782. The State Department of Education shall contract with an independent evaluator to evaluate the program and submit a report to the Legislature on its findings and recommendations no later than February 1, 2005.

8783. This article shall be implemented only ~~to the extent that costs that arise from it are funded with private donations.~~ *if the Department of Finance determines that private donations sufficient to fund the program and its evaluation have been deposited with the State Department of Education. The Department of Finance shall report its findings to the Chief Clerk of the Assembly.*

8784. This article shall become inoperative on July 1, 2005, and, as of January 1, 2006, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2006, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.